

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claim 6 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claim 1 to read, as follows.

1. **(Currently Amended)** An image forming apparatus comprising:

a developing device containing developer including toner and carrier, said developing device including having a first chamber for developing an electrostatic image formed on an image bearing member, and a second chamber constituting a developer circulating route between said second chamber and said first chamber;

a carrying member rotatably provided in said second chamber for carrying the developer;

a rotary member holding said developing device and rotatable in a route including a developing position;

supplying means for supplying the developer to said developing device, which is in said developing position;

an opening provided in said second chamber for outwardly discharging therethrough any excess developer resulting from the supply of the developer; [[and]]

an opening and closing member for opening and closing said opening by operation of gravity with the rotation of said rotary member; and

a protruding portion of a wall portion of ~~provided in~~ said second chamber on a side on which said opening and closing member is opened, said protruding portion protruding

toward an inside of said second chamber. ~~for reducing the developer flowing out through said opening with the rotation of said rotary member.~~

2. **(Original)** An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said wall portion is provided between said opening and said carrying member so as to narrow a developer containing space in said second chamber.

3. **(Original)** An image forming apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said opening is located above said wall portion when the excess developer can be discharged through said opening.

4. **(Original)** An image forming apparatus according to Claim 2 or 3, wherein said second chamber has a substantially U-shaped cross section, and said wall portion is provided so as to protrude from a straight portion of the U-shape toward said carrying member side.

5. **(Original)** An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, comprising a plurality of developing devices, wherein said rotary member locates any one of said plurality of developing devices held by said rotary member in said developing position.

6. **(Canceled)**